

*[English]***Changing of Patterns in KVK by ICAR**

3189. SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the recent changes introduced by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in the funding and staffing patterns of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras;

(b) the Voluntary Organisations, National forum of Krishi Vigyan Kendras and other organisations were consulted by the ICAR before introduction of these changes;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the benefits likely to accrue from the new changes;

(e) whether the Government propose to compensate the infrastructure development made by the voluntary organisations;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard to the infrastructure developed and the savings likely to accrue to the Government as a result of new policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The recent changes in respect of funding and staffing pattern of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) have been introduced by the ICAR in consultation with the Planning Commission. As per the present funding pattern, the KVKs will be funded on a participatory mode of funding on 75:25 per cent basis, the share of the Council being limited to 75% of the total estimated expenditure during the IXth Five Year Plan and later on in the Xth Five Year Plan onwards, the funding pattern will be on 50:50 per cent basis.

The staff strength has been changed to 16 in all the KVKs keeping in view the essential requirements for taking up the activities of the KVKs.

(b) to (d) Based on a brain storming session for discussion on various issues of implementation of KVKs. during IXth Plan involving various implementing agencies including voluntary organisation and further discussions for possible options the changes were introduced.

In view of constraint of funds and increasing financial implication, the funding pattern on participatory mode shall help these institutions to be self sustainable on long term basis.

(e) and (f) The infrastructural development for the KVKs have so far been funded by the ICAR on 100% basis.

(g) For any addition to the existing infrastructure, there will be a saving to the extent of 25% of the estimated cost based on the participatory mode of funding.

Fire Incidents in Delhi

3190. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHARA REDDY :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI KACHARU BHAI RAUT :
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Cold storaged report warned of towering infernos" appearing in the 'The Sunday Observer', dated June 22-28, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Government have taken action on the S.C. Vajpayee Committee report to prevent fire incidents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. It has been stated in the news report that no proper follow up action has been taken on the recommendations of the S.C. Vajpayee Committee which was set up in 1995 to look into the various aspects of fire safety management in the National Capital Territory. However, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have reported that the recommendations made by the said Committee have been forwarded to the local bodies/agencies concerned for necessary follow up action. In addition a Fire Advisory Committee has been constituted for modernisation of Delhi Fire Service. It is also envisaged to amend the Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986 for more effective fire safety management in the National Capital Territory.

*[Translation]***Crime in the Night Service Buses**

3191. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no security arrangements in the night service buses especially which are bound for Delhi, Chandigarh, Amritsar, Ramnagar, Haridwar and Kotdwar

because of which incidents of looting and murders are taking place in those buses;

(b) the number of such incidents took place in those buses 1994-95, 1996-97 separately;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to formulate any concrete scheme in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per List II-State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. As such, registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime including the crime relating to Night Service Buses is the responsibility of the State Governments. The statistics relating specifically to crime in Night Service Buses are not maintained at Central level. However, the Central Government, from time to time has been sending advisories to the States apart from providing financial assistance to strengthen their policing infrastructure.

[English]

Assistance for Drip Irrigation

3192. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Maharashtra for payment of past claims of Rs. 27 crore and Rs. 60 crore for the subsidy on targeted sets of drip irrigation to be installed during 1997-98 under the centrally sponsored installation of drip irrigation sets scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard and the time by which the required fund is to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Maharashtra have requested the Government of India to allocate higher subsidy during 1997-98 under the drip installation component of the scheme.

(c) The Government has allocated Rs. 18.74 crore for Maharashtra during 1997-98 for drip installation. The Government has also revalidated the unspent balance out of the release of 1996-97 to the State. An amount of Rs. 3.26 crore has been approved for release during 1997-98. Subsequent releases would be made on receiving the physical & financial progress report.

Bodo Movement

3193. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'ABSU to meet P.M. for State' appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated June 20, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the specific points of disagreement between the Government of Assam and Bodo Leaders; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to resolve them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) There was a demand from the Plains Tribals in Assam, particularly the Bodos for creating a Union Territory/separate State for them out of the State of Assam. An Accord was signed on 20th February, 1993 between the Bodo leaders and the Government of Assam under which it was decided to set-up a Bodoland Autonomous Council. In pursuance of this the Bodoland Autonomous Council (BAC) Act was passed by the Assam Legislative Assembly in 1993 and it received the assent of the President of India on 13th May, 1993. Interim Bodoland Executive Council has been set up pending elections to Bodoland Autonomous Council. The areas of the Council has also been notified by the State Govt.

The main purpose of the Bodo Accord was to provide autonomy to the Bodos for their socio-economic, educations, ethnic and cultural upliftment. However, elections to BAC could not be held because of difference of opinion between the State Government and Bodo leaders over the issue of de-limitation of the constituencies in BAC area and the demand for inclusion of additional villages in the BAC area.

Certain Bodo organisations are demanding a full fledged Bodoland state. The Govt. of Assam is holding discussions with various Bodo leaders for resolving the outstanding issues.

Protection of Inland Salt Industry

3194. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take measures to protect the inland salt industry near Wild